

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

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DATE: October 19, 2001 ACLA Letter No. 01-14

TO: All County Lead Agencies (ACLA)

SUBJECT: Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000
Stakeholder Input and Collaboration

REFERENCE: Section 9515, TITLE 9, California Code of Regulations
Government Code Section 54950-54962 (Ralph M. Brown Act)

This letter is to advise lead agencies on the importance of continuous collaboration for successful implementation and operation of the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA).

As you know, SACPA regulations (Section 9515, TITLE 9, California Code of Regulations) require that county plans be developed with input from impacted community parties and federally recognized American Indian tribes. Because the counties were given an unusually short period of time to complete the planning process, we recognize that counties may not have approached the process in the manner they would have, given more time. However, we are aware that, in some instances, key stakeholders implementing SACPA have not been included in local planning processes. Members of the Statewide Advisory Group have also expressed concern that in some counties outreach to the general community has been minimal and that collaboration groups have not been meeting since the original SACPA plan was completed.

Collaboration has been occurring statewide as well as at the local level to an unprecedented degree and it is essential that it continue. The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs encourages all counties to maintain a high level of collaboration among alcohol and other drug abuse treatment services, the courts and state, and local criminal justice entities. We strongly encourage you to reach out to impacted community parties and federally recognized American Indian tribes for input.

The Gov. Code § 54950-54962 (Brown Act) may apply to SACPA meetings conducted by your county, including meetings of county advisory groups to hear, discuss or deliberate SACPA issues. If such meetings are subject to the Brown Act, they must be open, noticed and publicized. To ensure your county is in compliance with the Brown Act, please consult your local county counsel.



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We look forward to our continuing collaboration to ensure the successful implementation and continued operation of SACPA. If you have any questions, please contact Penny Tafoya at (916) 445-0857.

Sincerely,

[Original Signed By]

DEL SAYLES-OWEN
Deputy Director
Office of Criminal Justice Collaboration